
THE GLEANER

October/November 2024

Birthdays

October

Gerilynn 10/1

Pauli W 10/1

Brenda 10/8

Carol 10/11

Wanda 10/23

Nancy 10/31

November

Mike 11/7

Pat 11/12

Larry 11/13

Sandy B 11/29

Juanita 11/29

Anniversaries

Gary & Diane 11/11

Since our Pastor is needing to have time with his dad, we thought to help a little with an article where his normally is. It is a pastoral letter, from our church, to show our appreciation for all he and Karen do for us. God has richly blessed us. Editorial Staff.

Dear Pastor,

The last few years have been full of challenges. The physical, emotional, and spiritual toll has been great on so many. And our Lord specifically called you to lead and feed His flock during this season.

God has used you to comfort those who have lost loved ones, encourage the discouraged, counsel those seeking direction, and preach and teach the unchanging Word of God. Through this time you have no doubt had your own fears and questions – and your own family to minister to. Still you have been faithful.

Thank you for modeling for us what it means to minister “*in season, out of season*” (2 Timothy 4:2). Thank you for loving Jesus and loving His church. Thank you for pointing us to Christ when nothing else makes sense. Thank you for being hopeful when many only want to despair. Thank you for showing us that God’s Word is all-sufficient. Thank you for staying true to your call.

Continued on next page

Soon this particular season will pass. In fact, soon all of this will pass and we will be in the presence of our Savior. I am sure that on the day we kneel at His nail-pierced feet you will hear, *"Well done, good and faithful servant"* (Matthew 25:23). Until then, let these words cheer you as you labor: *"...be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord"* (1 Corinthians 15:58). At times you may wonder what is being accomplished. Please know that God's people need a shepherd and this lost world needs your voice more than ever. The Lord is with you and it is a privilege to serve God with you in this generation and this community.

We love you and are praying for you. Jesus is praying for you.

Thank you for being our pastor. Grateful church members

Idea from [Enjoying the Journey](#), Scott Pauley

Treasurer's Report for August/September 2024

As of the writing of this report on September 25th , we are again in good financial condition. If you want exact numbers, you can check the reports on the bulletin board near the elevator. There you will find a report for the month of August but obviously not September as there is still a collection to be processed (September 29) and a check or two to be written.

I *can* tell you that the Finance Committee budgeted about \$100 for Elevator Maintenance for the year. We were blindsided with an expensive repair bill that blew that budget item. As this report is being written your treasurer is waiting for a call back from a Mobility Concepts billing representative. My hope is to arrange for some sort of "payment plan" based on an average expense in these last 6 years. It's nearly impossible to budget for the elevator! A plan with monthly installments will make a budget number more realistic.

If you're interested in being involved in the exciting world of small church finances, please talk to me or one of the Finance Committee, Carol, Laura Lee, Becky, Tana, or Rebecca. We'll be meeting to sketch out a financial plan for the coming year in the next month or so. Speaking of budgets, if you're the chair of one of the committees or someone who spends the church's money, please be thinking about a ballpark figure of your projected spending this coming year.

All for now and in Christ, Tom



9/26/24 Shoebox work party. Assembled coloring books, the paper cutter, something that terrified me as a child. Sandy, Brenda, Karen, Jen and Diana that I caught upstairs, in middle of table pic. (She was downstairs too, helping with OCC) Thanks everyone.



When you read this article, O.C.C. shoebox lunch and packing party will only be 3 weeks away. I know, it doesn't seem possible but it is. Thanks to all of you generous shoppers, we are in excellent shape for the packing. The boxes are ready. Lunch menu decided on and we will soon be ready to go. Our first work day was September 26. Additional workdays are scheduled for October 3 and October 17. If an additional day is needed it will be October 24th. Thank you in advance for the time you share getting everything ready and the tables set up. This mission project is a work of love and service to the Lord our Savior and requires many helping hands in service to him. The shoeboxes will be dedicated on November 17th with a special coffee hour to follow. They will be delivered to Mt. View Baptist Church on Monday the 18th-our local drop off place.

The month of November is dedicated to the ONLINE boxes. Our goal this year is fifty-50- given by the Holy Spirit. This is really an ambitious goal. To help with meeting this goal, the O.C.C. committee has designated special Sundays in November. On November 10 and 24, people with laptop computers will bring them to church. During coffee hour, you will be able to order your online boxes. All you need to bring is your DEBIT or CREDIT card. It will be so easy for you. The cost of each box is \$31.00-this includes The Greatest Journey. Am praying that you will include this amount in your budget as the Holy Spirit leads. We have 25 boxes already promised.

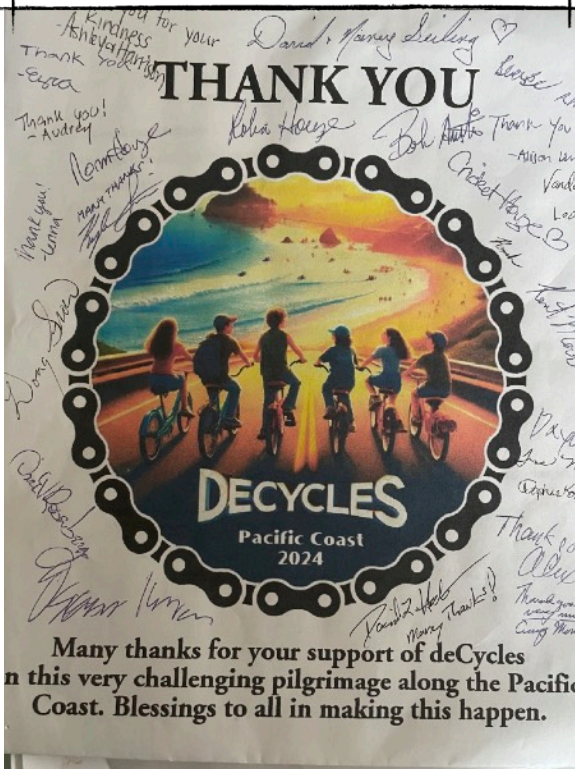
Each shoebox is a missionary going out to reach the heart of a child telling him/her of the love of Jesus and the salvation he offers. That child will in turn tell other children, family members and soon a church is started. What a wonderful testimony to the power, love, grand and mercy of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. HAPPY SHOEBOXING!! Blessings, Sandy

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. Mark 10:13-16



Paulli, Kathy and Gary. Our Nominating Committee meeting during the week. *See article.*

This summer we had an overnight visit from DECYCLES and it was a lot of fun and inspirational. Thank you!



Social Media Report

Experts suggest that to grow social media platforms, there should be three postings a day. With Kathy, Tony and myself that gives us three a day with a video on Sunday. And of course, Tana with our daily devotionals that reach people outside our congregation. *Please pray that our social media reaches those who need to hear God's word.* The church **Facebook** page has 180 followers with 382 engagements in the last 28 days as of 9/26/24. Thanks to those who share our posts as we are exposed to more people. Please keep it up and if you are not doing so, please start. You may wonder why we aren't getting more people through our doors as do I. The world has changed and we are sharing the Word and reaching people across our nation and places as far away as Pakistan and India. Only God knows the impact of TPC. We reached 96 people in the greater Puget Sound region; 10 people world wide in far flung places like the UAE, Germany, Congo, Australia, Somalia and the Philippines in the past 28 days. It's taken a long time to reach 180 followers. It is exciting to see our growth. **Instagram:** This platform is growing too. We have grown to 116 people (and other churches) that are following us. To my surprise some of these are not English as primary language speakers. Of course there are those bi-lingual people whom I admire as I have trouble enough with English. Sometimes I just say "What the heck! How are they following us?" But I am exceedingly happy they are, thanks be to God. Thank you for those who watch our services on Facebook and YouTube. From where ever you are, may God richly bless you. Chris

A letter to TPC, Summer 2024

Dear Toledo Presbyterian Church,

The words 'thank you' are not even close to how we feel. It was an honor to stay in your beautiful church and to meet so many wonderful members. We were given a warm welcome the moment we rode into your parking lot and that set the tone for the rest of our stay.

The supper was delicious! So many different dishes and we could taste the love in each bite. Then, you provided breakfast for us which saved us a lots of work and resources.

Decycles could not operate without congregations like yours. How kind of you to open not only your doors to us, but your hearts also.

We are truly sorry we did not meet your pastor and his wife. But we heard many wonderful comments about them. He was the one to accept us and we appreciate him greatly.

We pray God's richest blessings on this church and all the members. You are all delightful!
Nancy c/o Decycles 2024

Missions

Toledo Neighbors

The garden project is a head of schedule. Harvesting summer crops has been inspiring. The transition from God's Portion to a Local Farm as the primary source of food for distribution has been challenging. Costs to purchase food and supplies has increased. The vegetables are fresh and good quality but people are not familiar with this type of cooking. Neighbors continue to stock dried bean, pasta, bread etc. Finding a good supply of lean protein would be helpful. Neighbors are looking for new partnerships to help build the program.

Your Sister in Christ, *Paullí*



Thank you everyone for submitting articles. The editor would be hopeless without your assistance.

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.— Galatians 6:2, NIV

Winlock/Vader Foodbank & Rowdy Rooster



The Winlock/Vader Foodbank continues to service over 80 families on each of the three food distribution days the Foodbank is open. Families can shop once per month for staples. A hot meal is offered on each distribution day and all families can come for all three meals. The shelving on the front porch is filled continuously and people are encouraged to stop by anytime and pick up what they may need.

Winlock is having a Citywide scavenger hunt to benefit the Foodbank. Details can be found on Facebook. Your Sister in Christ, Paullii.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee had its first meeting on Thursday September 26, 2024. This committee nominates elders to serve on session for 2 year assignments. Session is the group of ruling elders that are elected by the congregation to govern and guide our church. Session does the business of the church. Gary Giester and Tom Hill will have served 6 consecutive years and will be stepping away from Session in January. Kathy Hill will also be stepping down from session. The Committee is looking for elders to join session. If you feel you are being called to this service please speak to anyone on session or Tony.

Your sister in Christ, Paulli

Prayer for Servant/Leaders

Lord, we thank you for your enduring presence and perfect wisdom that illuminates the thoughts, decisions and actions of our leaders, for your endless patience, compassion and love. Help our leaders to remain focused on you, to live and to lead as humble, grateful, assured, and generous servants. In Jesus' same we pray. Amen.

***Next dates to mark on your calendars: Oct 3 OCC Work Day, Oct 17 Work Day, Oct 27 Packing Party with lunch served following Worship Service
Oct 18 Red Cross Blood Drive***